RELIGION

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

COURSE GUIDE

2011-2012

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

COURSE GUIDE

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DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION
UNDERGRADUATE COURSE GUIDE
2010-2011

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www.kcmetro.cc.mo.us/longview/socsci/philosophy/religion/symbols.htm

This course guide has been prepared months in advance of the 2010-2011 academic year and information contained herein is subject to change. Students are advised not to purchase any texts without the approval of the professor concerned.
Due to the renumbering of courses in the Department, students should consult the list of equivalent undergraduate courses in the back of the 2010-2011 undergraduate calendar.

FACULTY

A list of the full-time faculty follows below. All possess degrees from universities and/or schools of advanced studies that represent the best academic centres for the study of religion in North America and India. All have published books that have made a contribution to their particular fields of study, have published in learned journals and given papers at learned societies. They have also won a reputation among their students for being good teachers, concerned about the quality of instruction at Concordia University, as well as for being "available" and committed to the development of a more meaningful student life.

Full-Time Faculty

Chair

Lorenzo DiTommaso, Ph.D. (McMaster) (as of June 1, 2011)

Professors

Michel Despland, Ph.D. (Harvard) (retired as of June 1, 2011)
Michael Oppenheim, Ph.D. (University of California)
Ira Robinson, Ph.D. (Harvard)
T.S. Rukmani, D.Litt., Ph.D. (Delhi University) - Chair in Hindu Studies (Sabbatical Jan. 1, 2012-June, 2012)

Associate Professors

Lynda Clarke, Ph.D. (McGill) (Sabbatical June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2012)
Richard Foltz, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Norma Joseph, Ph.D. (Concordia)
Leslie Orr, Ph.D. (McGill)
Norman Ravvin, Ph.D. (Univ. of Toronto) – Chair in Quebec & Canadian Jewish Studies

Assistant Professors

Donald Boisvert, Ph.D. (University of Ottawa)
Marc Lalonde, Ph.D. (Concordia)
Marc des Jardins, Ph.D. (McGill University) (Sabbatical June 1, 2011-May 31, 2012)
Naftali Cohn, Ph.D. (University of Pennsylvania)
Carly Daniel-Hughes, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Shaman Hatley, Ph.D. (University of Pennsylvania)
Hillary Kaell, Ph.D. (Harvard)

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT

General Objectives

The Department of Religion is dedicated to the academic study of religions and other social and cultural phenomena in so far as they have been influenced or affected by religions. We are interested in the comparative study of many religions. Although we do study how many religious traditions articulate and defend their own self-understandings, we treat these theologies and buddhologies academically and comparatively.

Nature of Religious Studies

The academic study of religion is a multi-disciplinary enterprise. It involves the historical examination of religious movements, the literary analyses of their literatures, philosophical reflections on beliefs and teachings, the social scientific investigations of their rituals, practices, texts, and institutions, the psychological study of their participants and ethical inquiries regarding both their moral writings and social roles.

Correspondingly, the faculty in the department have been trained in a number of academic disciplines including history, sociology, anthropology, literary studies, philosophy, psychology and theology as well as in the study of particular religious traditions.

KNOWLEDGE OF TWO MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

The Department believes that every Major or Honours student in Religion or in Judaic Studies should possess, at time of graduation, a knowledge of at least two major religious traditions. For example, the student who is pursuing a Major in Judaic Studies will take some courses in a religious tradition other than Judaism. This basic principle reinforces the emphasis upon the centrality of the discipline of the History of Religions. A particular religious tradition can best be understood in the context of the general religious history of humankind.

DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMMES

The Department of Religion offers at the undergraduate level: minors, majors and honours programmes in Religion and in Judaic Studies. The degree requirements for all of these programmes can be found below. We also offer several graduate programmes: an M.A. in the History and Philosophy of Religion, an M.A. in Judaic Studies, and a Ph.D. in Religion. For further information on our graduate programmes, please contact the graduate programme assistant at 848-2424 ext.2077.

Women and Religion

As part of the Department of Religion's undergraduate curriculum, a concentration in **Women and Religion** is offered. A variety of special courses are included in the regular program for the BA major in Religion. Religion majors can focus on this area for either the primary or secondary concentration requirements.

Thę study of women and religion is a growing field in which the Department of Religion of Concordia University has long been a leader. This structured concentration solidifies our commitment to this field and enables us to prepare students in a systematic and consistent fashion. The concentration furthers the work of the department in that it will allow students to pursue course work from a comparative, cross-cultural and multi-tradition perspective. The study of the role of women in the history and practice of religion introduces our students to an exciting and vital area of study.

Degree Requirements

60 B.A. Honours in Religion:

12 In a language related to thesis; or in a related discipline such as: Anthropology, Classics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Sociology, Women's Studies.
6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
21 From area of primary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 From area of secondary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 RELI elective credits at 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]
6 RELI 410[6]

42 B.A. Major in Religion

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3] or 215[3]
21 From area of primary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 From area of secondary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 RELI elective credits at 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]

24 Minor in Religion

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3] or 215[3]
18 RELI elective credits (chosen in consultation with Departmental advisor)

60 B.A. Honours in Judaic Studies

12 Chosen from: HEBR 210[6], HEBR 241[3], HEBR 242[3], RELI 401[3]
Students who demonstrate fluency in Hebrew by a written examination may substitute RELI courses at the 300 and 400 level approved by the departmental adviser.
6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
3 RELI 220[3]
9 Chosen from RELI 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]
9 Chosen from RELI 329[3],336[3],338[3], 339[3], 381[3], 391[3], 392[3], 395[3], 407[3]
6 Chosen from RELI 223[3], 224[3], 225[3], 226[3], 302[3], 316[3], 318[3], 319[3], 320[3], 321[3], 322[3], 323[3], 324[3], 325[3] or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor
3 Chosen from RELI 332[3], 334[3], 335[3] or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor
3 RELI elective credits at the 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]
6 RELI 410[6]

48 B.A. Major in Judaic Studies

12 Chosen from Hebrew Language: HEBR 210[6], HEBR 241[3] , HEBR 242[3] , RELI 401[3]
Students who demonstrate fluency in Hebrew by a written examination may substitute RELI courses at the 300 and 400 level approved by the departmental adviser.

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3] ,210[3], 214[3] , 215[3]

3 RELI 220[3]

9 Chosen from RELI 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]

9 Chosen from RELI 329[3], 332[3],334[3] , 335[3] ,336[3], 338[3], 339[3] 381[3], 391[3], 392[3], 395[3], 407[3] or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

6 Chosen from RELI 223[3], 224[3], 225[3], 226[3], 302[3], 316[3], 318[3], 319[3], 320[3], 321[3], 322[3], 323[3], 324[3], 325[3] or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

3 RELI 409[3]

24 Minor in Judaic Studies

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3 a] , 215[3]

3 RELI 220[3]

6 Chosen from RELI 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]

9 RELI elective credits at the 300 or 400 level (chosen in consultation with the departmental advisor)

24 Minor in Iranian Studies

3 RELI 318[3]

3 Chosen from ANTH 323[3] or ANTH credits dealing with the peoples and cultures of Iran or Persia and approved by the departmental advisor

3 Chosen from CLAS 230[3] or HIST 219[3]; HIST 240[3], 241[3], 467[3], POLI 391[3], 395[3]

3 Chosen from RELI 224[3], 316[3], 317[3], 319[3], 383[3], 411[3]

6 Chosen from RELI 412[3], 414[3] or RELI courses dealing with the religions of Iran or Persia

6 Credits chosen from any courses dealing primarily with Iran or the Eurasian regions historically influenced by Iranian and Persian culture and approved by the departmental advisor

NOTE: Any of the courses above may be substituted by an appropriate course approved by the departmental advisor.

Areas of Concentration

A - Asian Religions (21 credits) - chosen from any of the following:

RELI 224[3] Introduction to Islam,
RELI 225[3] Introduction to Hinduism
RELI 226[3] Introduction to Buddhism
RELI 316[3] Medieval Islam
RELI 318[3] Shiite Islam
RELI 319[3] Modern Islam
RELI 340[3] Veda & Upanishads: Fountainhead of Hindu Thought
RELI 341[3] Hindu Sadhana: From Yajna to Yoga
RELI 342[3] The Golden Age of Bhakti
RELI 346[3] From Rammohun Roy to Gandhi and After

RELI 347[3] Religion and the Arts in South & Southeast Asia
RELI 348[3] Religion and Society in South & Southeast Asia
RELI 349[3] Religions of China and Japan
RELI 350[3] Theravada Buddhism
RELI 364[3] Mahayana Buddhism
RELI 383[3] Women and Religion: Islam
RELI 384[3] Women and Religion: Hinduism
RELI 385[3] Women and Religion: Buddhism
RELI 411[3] Studies in Qur'an and Hadith or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

B - Christianity (21 credits)

3 RELI 223[3] Introduction to Christianity

12 Chosen from RELI 301[3] Biblical Studies I: The Hebrew Bible, RELI 302[3] Biblical Studies II: Christian Origins, RELI 320[3] Catacombs, Crusades and Convents: History of Christianity I, RELI 321[3] Mystics, Heretics and Reformers: History of Christianity II, RELI 322[3] From Toleration to Political and Social Activism: History of Christianity III or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

6 Christianity elective credits at the 300 or 400 level

C - Judaism (21 credits)

3 RELI 220[3] Introduction to Judaism

3 RELI 301[3] Biblical Studies I: The Hebrew Bible

6 Chosen from: RELI 326[3] Ancient Judaism, RELI 327[3] Medieval Jewish Thought & Institutions, RELI 328[3] Modern Judaism or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

9 Judaic Studies elective credits at the 300 or 400 level

D - Women and Religion (21 credits)

3 RELI 233[3] Introduction to Women and Religion

6 Chosen from: RELI 381[3] Women and Religion: Judaism
RELI 382[3] Women and Religion: Christianity
RELI 383[3] Women and Religion: Islam
RELI 384[3] Women and Religion: Hinduism
RELI 385[3] Women and Religion: Buddhism
RELI 391[3] Women and Jewish History: Ancient & Medieval
RELI 392[3] Women and Jewish History: Modern or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

9 Chosen from: RELI 372[3] The Human Body in Religious Faith and Practice
RELI 380[3] Sexuality in the History of Religion
RELI 387[3] Goddesses and Religious Images of Women
RELI 389[3] Women's Ritual: Expressions and Expertise
RELI 406[3] Feminist Hermeneutics & Scripture
or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

3 Women and Religion elective credits at the 300 or 400 level

E – Islam (21 credits)

6 Chosen from: RELI 224[3], 316[3], 319[3]

12 Chosen from: RELI 314[3], 315[3], 317[3], 318[3], 348[3], 383[3], 412[3]: from 316 or 319 if not taken to satisfy requirements in first category; from 411 or 416 if not taken to satisfy requirements in third category: or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

3 Chosen from RELI 411 or 416; or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

NOTE: Majors in Religion concentrating in Islam may count up to six credits of Arabic toward the Islam concentration. Honours students concentrating in Islam must take at least nine credits of Arabic, to be counted in the 12-credit "language related to thesis"category of the Honours program. Honours students may also count an additional six credits of Arabic toward their program.

NOTE: Students who demonstrate fluency in Arabic by a written examination may substitute RELI courses at the 300 and 400 level approved by the departmental advisor.

Southern Asia Studies

The Department of Religion participates with History, Political Science and several other departments in the Southern Asia Studies Programme which offers a major and a minor as follows:

MAJOR (42 credits)

6 credits History 261 and Religion 215

3 credits History 364, 347, 393 or 462

6 credits Political Science 336, 424, 482

9 credits Religion 224, 225, 226, 318, 340, 341, 342, 346, 347, 348, 350, 384

NOTE: Any of the above courses may be substituted by a Special Topics course on Southern Asia in the same Department and approved by the departmental advisor.

18 credits Chosen from any relevant courses in the core disciplines, including Special Topics courses (not already counted towards the above requirements) or courses dealing with Southern Asia in the Departments of Economics, Education, English, Geography, Sociology/Anthropology, The Faculty of Fine Arts, and the John Molson School of Business.

MINOR (24 credits)

6 credits History 261 and Religion 215

6 credits History 364, 393 or 462

Political Science 336, 424, 482

Economics 311, 319

6 credits any from Religion 224, 225, 226, 318, 340, 341, 342, 346, 347, 348, 350, 384; or FMST 335

NOTE: Any of the courses above may be substituted by an appropriate course on Southern Asia approved by the departmental advisor.

6 elective credits from any courses dealing primarily with Southern Asia, and Special Topics courses in any discipline with a Southern Asia theme or focus. Other courses may be substituted for many of the above with the Programme Advisor's permission.

Please see the Undergraduate Calendar for further details on the Southern Asia Studies Programme.

For more information, contact:

Dr. Donald Boisvert: dlb@alcor.concordia.ca or Dr. Carly Daniel-Hughes (June 1 on): cdanielhughes@gmail.com

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

Student Advising

Students who have questions concerning their programme of study or need assistance relating to academic difficulties can contact the Department either by phone (848-2424, ext. 2065) or email religion@alcor.concordia.ca and make an appointment to meet with an undergraduate advisor.

Undergraduate Listserve

Religion students and students taking one or more Religion courses have the option of being added to the Religion Undergraduate Listserve. This listserve helps to keep students informed of upcoming events, guest speakers and academic deadlines.

Department Web Page

Visit the Department's webpage and find information on the various courses offered, course outlines, faculty research interests, guest lectures and conferences, information on our graduate programmes plus much more:
http://religion.concordia.ca

THE BOYD SINYARD AWARD

Each year the Boyd Sinyard award is given to the outstanding graduating student in Religion. The award is named after the first chairman of the Department of Religion at Sir George Williams University.

CONCORDIA RELIGION STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (CRSA)

If you are studying within the Department of Religion (i.e. if you are an Honours, Major, Minor or just taking a course offered by the department), you are a member of the CRSA. CRSA is a student-administered organization dedicated to fostering community and expanding the educational experience of all Religion students. Each year the executive branch of CRSA (five students elected to plan and administer CRSA affairs) offers Religion students the chance to meet each other and faculty at various social gatherings, as well as the opportunity to enliven their education by attending CRSA sponsored lectures given by learned academics and religious thinkers from all parts of the world. CRSA members are urged to take advantage of the student lounge located in the basement of annex R (2050 Mackay). This is a place where students can study, hang out or use the free phone. If you would like more information about CRSA, leave a message in our mailbox at the Department of Religion.

COURSES
SUMMER 2011
(May 3 – June 20)

RELI 214/1 - AA (3 credits) H-411 M.W. 1300-1530
RELIGIONS OF THE WEST
Instructor: Marc Lalonde

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that arose in Western Asia, including Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The course examines contemporary forms of religious life in those parts of the world where these traditions have spread, as well as indigenous religions. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these various traditions. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 214 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 313/1 - AA (3 credits) FG-B080 T.J. 1200-1430
(xlisted with RELI 620A)
ZOROASTRIANISM
Instructor: Richard Foltz

Zoroastrianism, though counting no more than a few hundred thousand practitioners today, is one of the most significant traditions in the history of religions, providing a world-view and ethical framework later adopted by Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This course covers the 3,000-year history of Zoroastrianism, including controversies surrounding its origins, its contributions to other religions, its eventual decline, and the Zoroastrian diaspora of contemporary times. Readings from the Avesta and other texts are in English translation.

RELI 368/1 - A (3 credits) H-429 M.W. 1530-1800
RELIGION IN NATIVE TRADITIONS
Instructor: A. Brian Deer/Louise Johnston

This overview looks at the many diverse religious traditions of the First Nations populations in North America. The course examines the sacred stories, ceremonial patterns, life cycle rituals, and religious activities in their varied expressions. Consideration is given to the historical interaction of native government with religious practices.

COURSES
FALL AND WINTER 2011-2012
(/2 = Fall 2011 /4 = Winter 2012)

RELI 209/2 - A (3 credits) Shaun T.J. 1315-1430
THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION FG 8030
Instructor: Marc Lalonde

This course explores the conceptual, symbolic, and practical elements that constitute, what we can call, "the religious imagination." In general terms, the religious imagination entails the human effort to engage and respond to "reality" in a religious fashion. To be sure, what constitutes "religion" here is both highly variable and extremely complex. Nevertheless, students of religion have learned to identify unique patterns of human life and thought that claim to bear witness to, what is variously called, "the sacred," "the holy," "the ultimate," or "the real." Toward achieving a greater comprehension of the religious imagination at work in this phenomena, this course will examine existing expressions of the sacred, religious belief, religious mythology, religious philosophies, and ritual practice. It is in relation to these facets of "the religious imagination" that we will explore a way of thinking and living that has endured across the centuries and around the world. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 211 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 209/4 - A (3 credits) H-431 M.W. 1315-1430
THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION
Instructor: Marc Lalonde Katherine

This course explores the conceptual, symbolic, and practical elements that constitute, what we can call, "the religious imagination." In general terms, the religious imagination entails the human effort to engage and respond to "reality" in a religious fashion. To be sure, what constitutes "religion" here is both highly variable and extremely complex. Nevertheless, students of religion have learned to identify unique patterns of human life and thought that claim to bear witness to, what is variously called, "the sacred," "the holy," "the ultimate," or "the real." Toward achieving a greater comprehension of the religious imagination at work in this phenomena, this course will examine existing expressions of the sacred, religious belief, religious mythology, religious philosophies, and ritual practice. It is in relation to these facets of "the religious imagination" that we will explore a way of thinking and living that has endured across the centuries and around the world. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 211 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 210/2 – A (3 credits) MB 5.265 M.W. 1015-1130
RELIGION IN PRACTICE Jacob
Instructor: Laurie
This course focuses on the day-to-day practice of religious traditions. Included are the expression of religious experiences through art, music, and scripture; transmission of these religious expressions through ritual, worship and mystical/ecstatic practices; and the construction and maintenance of different types of religious authority and communal identities. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 211 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 214/4 - A (3 credits) T.J. 1145-1300
RELIGIONS OF THE WEST
Instructor:

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that arose in Western Asia, including Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The course examines contemporary forms of religious life in those parts of the world where these traditions have spread, as well as indigenous religions. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these various traditions. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 214 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 215/2 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1145-1300
RELIGIONS OF ASIA
Instructor:

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that have arisen in and spread throughout Asia, including Hinduism, Buddhism, and the religions of China and Japan. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these traditions. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 215 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 216/2 – Onl EC (3 credits) and **RELI 216/4 – Onl EC** (3 credits)
ENCOUNTERING WORLD RELIGIONS
Instructor: Howard Joseph

This course serves as an introduction to some of the religions of today's world, and explores several contemporary contexts where people of diverse religious backgrounds come into contact with one another. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 298C or RELZ 216 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 218/2 - A (3 credits) M.W. 1315-1430
WISDOM, TRADITIONS AND ENLIGHTENMENT
Instructor:

Most of the world's religions have formulated a set of teachings which convey an idea of the fundamental realities of the nature of the universe, and of the path by which humankind can come to a realization of these realities. Such a realization is frequently equated with the ultimate goal of enlightenment as liberation, or knowledge of/union with the transcendent. This course explores several of the religious traditions which have developed texts and practices leading to wisdom. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELZ 218 or for this topic under an RELI 298 or RELZ 298 number may not take this course for credit.

RELI 220/2- A (3 credits) M.W. 1145-1300
INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM
Instructor: ~~Ira Robinson~~

This course will examine the history of Jews and of Judaism from ancient times until the present. It will emphasize the continuities, changes and interrelationships with

respect to Jewish social, religious and intellectual life through the ages. It will also carefully examine the varieties of belief and practice in contemporary Jewish life. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 222 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 223/4 - A (3 credits) Miriam J.1315-1600
INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY H 420
Instructor: Donald Boisvert

This course provides an introduction to key developments and enduring structures in the historical evolution of Christianity. It examines the variety of expressions of faith that are embodied by the Eastern churches (e.g. Greek and Russian Orthodox, Syrian) and the Western (e.g. Roman Catholic, Protestant), and traces the ways in which institutions, symbols, and rituals have in the past and continue today to carry forward the Christian tradition as a world religion in a variety of cultural contexts.

RELI 224/2 – A (3 credits) Eliza T.J.1145-1300
INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM
Instructor: Jose Abraham H-411

This course explores the religious tradition of Islam through the beliefs and practices of the vast number of Muslims scattered throughout the world — in the Middle East, Indonesia, India and Pakistan, North America, and other places. It examines the scriptures and common rituals or "pillars" of the religion, as well as expressions of life and culture in the past and present such as the law (shariah), the Islamic arts, and the mystical orders. The course also provides a historical framework of the classical period of Islam up to the Abbasid empire (eighth century). **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 313 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 225/2 – AA (3 credits) Shelley T. 1800-2015
INTRODUCTION TO HINDUISM FG C080
Instructor: Shaman Hatley

This course surveys Hinduism in its diverse history, sects, schools of thought, sacred texts, spiritual practices, and contemporary interpretations. We will focus on several prominent dimensions of the tradition, including the Hindu temple, mysticism and metaphysics in the Upanisads, karma and rebirth, dharma (religious duty and the cosmic/social order), moksha (liberation), gender and caste, devotional traditions, and narrative literatures. **Note**: Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 298 number may not take this course for credit.

RELI 226/2 – A (3 credits) Mrinal T.J.1445-1600
INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM H-420
Instructor: Marcel

This course introduces students to the diversity of forms of Buddhism that have emerged in history and are practiced today. It examines those aspects that are shared in common by Buddhists all over the world, including reverence for the Buddha, support of the monastic order, and adherence to the Buddha's teachings. The course explores the ways in which these ideals and beliefs are expressed through such Buddhist practices as worship, study, pilgrimage, and meditation. **Note:** Students who have

received credit for RELI 350 or 364 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 233/2 – A (3 credits) Marie – Paule M.W. 1145-1300
INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN AND RELIGION
Instructor: Ildi FG B050

This introduction to the particular problems and issues in the study of women and religion uses case studies from various religious traditions. The course presents a survey of the different levels of participation, the complex ritual activities, and the intriguing divine imagery associated with women that are found in many religious traditions. Questions pertaining to the contemporary feminist discourse on such topics as witchcraft, matriarchy, and goddess religions are also explored.

RELI 298H/2 - A (3 credits) ~~Mitch~~ ~~T.J. 1015-1130~~ M.W. 1:15-2:30
SELECTED TOPICS IN RELIGION MB S1.430
SPECIAL TOPIC: JEWS AND FOOD
Instructor: ~~Naftali Cohn~~ Norma Joseph Katherine

The link between Jews and food is perhaps notorious. Comedians as well as scholars have studied and joked about the famous connection between Jews and their penchant for eating special foods and for eating a lot. It may all begin with the sacred texts, but this fascination with food has certainly gone much farther than any biblical norm. This course will negotiate biblical texts, cookbooks, film, fiction, and current theories on ethnic foodways. All of it in order to fathom the connection, the function, the identity and especially the fun of Jewish food.

RELI 298I/2 - A (3 credits) ~~Andrew Renahan~~ Mitch Schneider T.J. 1015-1130
SELECTED TOPICS IN RELIGION
SPECIAL TOPIC: JUDAISM AND POPULAR CULTURE
Instructor: Naftali Cohn H-620

From Al Jolson to Seinfeld to the Simpsons, Jewishness has held a unique place in modern and contemporary popular culture. In this course we will study the representation of Jewishness in a variety of popular culture media, including television, film, comics, music, sports, and fictional literature. Through a close reading of each work, genre, or other entertainment venue, we will consider the evolution during the 20th and into the 21st century of what it means for someone to be Jewish and how Jews are understood to fit into the larger society, while still maintaining a unique ethnic and cultural heritage.

RELI 300/2 - AA (3 credits) Ashleigh W. 1800-2015
CULTS AND RELIGIOUS CONTROVERSY IN NORTH AMERICA
Instructor: Susan FG B050

This course takes a sociological and historical approach towards understanding new religious movements (NRMs), popularly known as "cults". The course examines the reasons for their controversial status in society, and undertakes a survey of the beliefs, rituals, leadership, membership, recruitment strategies, and social organization of a number of specific NRMs. **Note:** Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 298 number or RELI 217 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 302/4 - AA (3 credits) Julia Rombouts W. 1800-2015
BIBLICAL STUDIESII: CHRISTIAN ORIGINS
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes H-535 H-411

This course provides an historical introduction to the New Testament writings and other contemporary early Christian literature, including the *Gospel of Thomas* and *The Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles.* Our goal is to read these documents as a window onto the religious sensibilities and interests of ancient Christians in the first century of the Roman Empire. What can these writings tell us about the major issues, concerns, and struggles that emerged in and gave shape to the earliest forms of Christianity? What do these texts reveal about the relationship of this tradition to ancient Judaism? What were the historical processes by which some writings obtained authoritative status while others did not?

RELI 310/2 - A (3 credits) Michelle Bakker T.J. 1445-1600
SELF AND OTHER: EXPLORING VALUE CHOICES IN PERSONAL & INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS
Instructor: Marc Lalonde H-507

This course considers ethical issues arising in the context of personal and interpersonal relations. In particular, this course intends to explore the meaning, purpose, and function of ethics and ethical thought at the level of individual existence. Toward that end, the course endeavours to comprehend the ethical in its broadest sense as a framework of meaning that creatively attempts to order the personal life in relation to the course of its actualization; in relation to significant Others; in relation to the body, gender and sexuality; and in relation to religion. These basic themes and issues are variously considered in the course readings, which introduce the student to a number of alternative, sometimes contrasting ways of being-in-the-world. In this fashion, the plurarality, plasticity, and complexity of the personal life come to the fore in relation to corresponding forms of ethical thought and reflection. **Note**: Students who have received credit RELZ 310 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 312/4 – A (3 credits) Rex Barnes. T. 1315-1600
JUSTICE AND SOCIAL CONFLICT IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD
Instructor: Laune H-521

This course considers ethical issues arising in the context of social, legal, and political relations. These issues are discussed in relation to both traditional and contemporary moral perspectives, both religious and non-religious. Topics covered typically include discussions of social and economic inequality, welfare, poverty, just punishment, business ethics, public ethics, economic development, and sustainable development. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 332 or RELZ 312 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 319/4 - AA (3 credits) X6130 Samantha J. 1800-2015
MODERN ISLAM
Instructor: Richard Foltz H-561 & H-540

This course surveys some of the main questions raised by modernity for Muslims and the various types of responses to it that Muslims have sought to formulate and put into

practice, particularly in terms of how knowledge is defined, how society is governed, and how men and women are to relate to each other and to non-Muslims.

RELI 324/4 –A (3 credits) T.J. 1015-1130
HERESY, DISSIDENCE AND THE END OF THE WORLD
Instructor: Josée H 603

This course investigates marginal forms of Christianity which have found themselves ignored, excluded, or suppressed by more mainstream Christian groups and institutions. The course explores aspects of the history of heretical movements, mysticism, and apocalypticism. It looks at the world-views and practices associated with such marginal forms of Christianity, placing religious traditions and movements within their broader social, cultural, and political contexts. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 308 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 325B/4 – A (3 credits) FG BOSS M.W. 1015-1130
PROPHETS, REBELS AND SAINTS: MOSES
Instructor: Naftali Cohn

Who was Moses and what made him a leader? These two questions will animate our exploration of the ways in which this quintessential Jewish religious leader is portrayed in literature, art, and cinema from the Bible to contemporary times. The varying portraits of Moses will illustrate the different approaches that have been taken through the ages to the character of Moses, the nature of leadership, the relationship with the divine, and the highest human values. In addition, our study of the evolving picture of Moses will help uncover the unique factors that may have shaped his (re-)presentation in each setting. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 308 may not take this course for credit

RELI 326/2 – A (3 credits) ~~FG BOSS~~ M.W. 1015-1130
ANCIENT JUDAISM H-631
Instructor: Naftali Cohn

This course examines the variety of Judaic expression in the period of Late Antiquity. This includes the concepts, institutions, and literature of both rabbinic and non-rabbinic Judaisms as well as their biblical background. The development of rabbinic systems of thought and law, as well as their expression in rabbinic literature, are considered

RELI 327/4 – A (3 credits) H 403 M.W 1015-1130
MEDIEVAL JEWISH THOUGHT AND INSTITUTIONS
Instructor: Ira Robinson

This course examines the intellectual, religious and social history of selected Jewish communities during the Middle Ages. Both internal Jewish developments and changing Jewish relations with their non-Jewish neighbours are considered.

RELI 329/4 – A (3 credits) T.J 1445-1600
(xlisted POLI 398U)
ISRAEL: RELIGION AND STATE
Instructor: Michael Oppenheim

The central foci of the class are the answers to two questions, the first of which is: What does it mean to have a Jewish state? The class will explore a wide range of views concerning this issue, from Herzl to contemporary post-Zionist positions. The second question is: What role does religion play within the state of Israel? In answer to this, we will examine studies of different movements and particular communities within Israel, such as Middle Eastern Jews, the Ultra-Orthodox, and the Settlers' Movement. In addition to these readings, there are two small texts that act as a backdrop. They explore the history of the Zionist movement and the changes to Israeli society in the past few decades.

RELI 331/2 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1015-1130
LITERATURE AND THE HOLOCAUST
(xlisted ENGL 398X)
Instructor: Norman Ravvin

Religious, historical, literary, and political contexts have been applied to come to terms with the events of the Holocaust. All of these are relevant as students read important and provocative novels dealing with such issues as ethics, the relationship between art and history, the use of humour and popular cultural forms, as well as the way that storytelling helps direct our understanding of events that are often said to be incomprehensible. The wider impact of fiction dealing with the Holocaust on the popular media, including film, CD-ROMs, video, and news reporting, is also considered **Note:** Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

RELI 336/2 – A (3 credits) M.W. 1145-1300
SEPHARDIC JUDAISM
Instructor:
This course studies the social and spiritual life of the various communities within the Sephardi world. Topics include Judaism under Islam; the expulsion and dispersion; Sephardi-Maghrebi Judaism; modern times in Arab lands; Sephardi life in the new world, Europe, and Israel. In addition, the philosophical, Halakhic, biblical, and mystical works of Sephardi Jews are examined.

RELI 343/2 – A (3 credits) T.J.1315-1430
YOGA IN HISTORY, THOUGHT AND PRACTICE
Instructor: Shaman Hatley

This course examines the history, thought, and practices of Yoga in their religious and cultural contexts. In the modern West, Yoga has become popular as a secular form of exercise. Intrinsic to no single religion, Yoga has had roles in most South Asian traditions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sufism or Islamic mysticism. The course surveys this rich history, and the various forms of meditative and physical discipline Yoga has entailed. **Note:** Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

RELI 347/4 - A (3 credits) H-603 M.W.1445-1600
RELIGION AND ART IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Instructor: Apsha

This course is an introduction to the religious art of South and Southeast Asia, including an examination of Hindu, Buddhist, and Islamic architecture, sculpture, painting, and performing arts. The course examines the ways in which sacred art is related to myth and symbol, religious values and goals, ritual, religious experience, and social and political realities.

RELI 348/4 - A (3 credits) MB S2:115 M.W.1145-1300
RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Instructor: Leslie Orr

This historical and sociological examination of religion's impact on and intersection with the structures of South and Southeast Asian societies, explores such issues as caste and class, gender and family relations, links between religion and the state, and relations between Hindu, Buddhist, Christian and Muslim communities. South Asia includes the countries of Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. Southeast Asia includes Burma, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Each of these modern nations has its distinctive and complex history and culture, and each is home to adherents of multiple religious traditions. Out of this vast region, we will focus on two countries – India and Thailand. Students who are interested in other parts of South and Southeast Asia will have the opportunity to focus on these in the context of the term paper project.

RELI 361/4 - A (3 credits) H-459 T.J.1015-1130
RELIGIONS OF JAPAN
Instructor: Marie-Paule

This course uses a historical approach to understand the development of Japanese religious traditions. It investigates popular Japanese cults and religions, the assimilation of foreign religious thought and practices, and the implantation of Buddhism, Confucianism, and other models from China. Religious sectarianism, state-regulated religious schools, cults, and the role of religion in the establishment of Japanese national identity are also studied. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 349 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 364/4 - A (3 credits) H-459 T.J.1315-1430
MAHAYANA BUDDHISM
Instructor: Shaman Hatley

This course studies the origins and evolution of the Mahayana Buddhist in India, and the spread and growth of various Mahayana traditions in East Asia. It examines developments in texts, doctrine, philosophy, ethical ideals, practices (worship and meditation), and institutions.

RELI 371/4 - AA (3 credits) J. 1800-2015
RELIGION AND HEALING
Instructor:

This course looks at the interactions between religious beliefs and practices and healing beliefs and practices, both in traditional and contemporary settings. Topics typically include examinations of shamanism, folk medicine, spiritual healing, complementary and alternative medicine, and the relations between faith and established medical practices. Topics are discussed in relation to various religious traditions.

RELI 375/2 and /4 – Onl EC (3 credits)
RELIGION IN CANADA
Instructor: Laurie Lamoureux Scholes

This course examines the history, contributions and sociological profile of different religious traditions within Canadian society. In particular, the influence of these traditions on Canadian politics, law and culture is considered, as well as the challenges a number of them faced in coming to Canada. Attention is also paid to the interaction of different religious groups within the broader Canadian context. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 363 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 376/2 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1445-1600
PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION
Instructor: Michael Oppenheim

The discipline of Psychology of Religion can usually be described in terms of two streams. The first is experimental and empirical and the second "humanistic", philosophical and theoretical. This class will focus on the second stream. It will seek insights from the convergence of the disciplines of psychology and religious studies in addressing such questions as: What does it mean to be religious? What is the role of religion in individual development? What is the place of relationships to others in religious life? How is authenticity characterized? How are gender differences treated in the psychology of religion? We will explore some of the classical psychological theories of religion, those developed by James, Freud, Erikson, and Jung, as well as more recent developments by post-modern and feminist theorists.

RELI 378/4 - A (3 credits) T.J. 1445-1600
DEATH AND DYING
Instructor:

This course provides a comparative perspective on the variety of conceptions and practices related to death and dying that are found in different world religions. In addition, the course considers how people in contemporary North American society utilise traditional religious concepts and rituals, scientific understandings and medical procedures, or innovative combinations of ideas and practices to cope with, and make sense of, the problem of death. Lectures, discussions and some small group work will constitute the major teaching methods. Guest lecturers will be invited. Students should complete the course with some general understanding of, and critical appreciation for, the ways in which different religious traditions explain death and its attendant issues, and how these might assist individuals in coping with their own death or that of others.

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RELI 380/2 – A (3 credits) H-407 J. 1315-1600
RELIGION AND SEXUALITY
Instructor: ~~Donald Boisvert~~ Maria

This course examines, from comparative and historical perspectives, the interplay of religion and human sexuality. It will look at: 1) the development of attitudes towards sexuality within diverse religious traditions, and 2) religious and cultural manifestations of sexuality. Topics may include, among others, sexual images of the sacred; human reproduction; gender and identity; religion, the body and sexual desire; women; marriage; virginity and celibacy; sexual variance; homosexuality; sexuality and fetishism.

MB S1.115

RELI 381/4 – A (3 credits) M.W.1145-1300
WOMEN AND RELIGION: JUDAISM
Instructor: Norma Joseph

This course explores the status and religious roles of women within the Judaic tradition. Its focus is on the practice of the religion, especially the ritual and legal spheres. The relationship between common practice, popular attitudes, and formal legal principles is examined in order to inquire into issues of gender and religion.

RELI 382/2 – A (3 credits) ~~Julie~~ Rombough M.W.1445-1600
WOMEN ND RELIGION: CHRISTIANITY
Instructor: Hillary Kaell H-633

The focus of the course is the role of women and the conflicting patterns of gender construction in the history of Christianity. Through a critical use of primary and secondary sources, both visual and textual, the course explores the sources of women's power and subordination in order to illuminate the relationship between gender and the Christian tradition.

RELI 386/4 - AA (3 credits) ~~Dolores~~ F.G. BOGO T.1800-2015
WITCHCRAFT, MAGIC AND RELIGION
Instructor: Maria Cimmerer

This course approaches the study of magic, witchcraft, and religion from a variety of perspectives. Taking examples from indigenous cultures, the ancient world, medieval Europe, the early modern period and contemporary movements, the practices and rituals that have been labeled magic or witchcraft are examined, along with the responses to them. The course explores how magicians and witches view themselves, how different cultures relate to them, and how magic, witchcraft, and religion merge and diverge. **Note**: Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

MB S1.401

RELI 389/4 - A (3 credits) M.W.1445-1600
WOMENS RITUAL: EXPRESSIONS AND EXPERTISE
Instructor: ~~Norma Joseph~~ Josée

This course will use ethnographies in order to focus on women's ritual ritual experiences and expertise. We will try to explore the contexts and patterns of women's

ritual lives in various religious traditions. In addition to considering women's activities in formal or public ritual contexts, this course will focus especially on the importance of women as ritual specialists and authorities in the domestic context. The goal of the course is to locate the central significance and presence of women's ritual lives.

RELI 392/2 - A (3 credits) H 625 M.1600-1815
(xlisted with RELI 697A)
WOMEN AND JEWISH HISTORY: MODERN
Instructor: Norma Joseph Joma

This course examines the lives and experiences of Jewish women in the modern period. The immigrations to North America and the subsequent development of the community provide the framework for investigating Jewish women's encounter with and contribution to modern Jewish life. The main focus is on North America, using primary sources such as fiction, biography, and autobiography. The influence of denominational differences and feminist challenges complete the survey.

RELI 394/2 - AA (3 credits) Cimmunee J.1800-2015
HISTORY OF SATAN:EVIL PERSONIFIED IN JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY
Instructor: Lorenzo DiTommaso FG BO60

Adversary, Tempter, Deceiver, Fallen Angel, Evil Incarnate, King of Hell, Anti-Hero. Portrayals of Satan reflect changing ideas about the nature of the universe and our place within it. This course investigates i) the origins and early notions of Satan in the Bible and extra-biblical texts, and ii) the development and significance of the figure in religious and secular literature and modern popular culture. Topics for discussion include evil, hell, the Antichrist, and the end of the world. **Note**: Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 298 or RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

RELI 398B/4 –A (3 credits) H 401 M.W.1315-1430
PURITANS-PALIN:CHRISTIANITY IN THE U.S.
(Selected Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Hillary Kaell

Polls consistently show that the United States is the most religious country in the developed world. What accounts for this and how has religion been conceived and practiced? This course introduces students to the history of Christianity in the U.S. from the 1630s to the present, with an emphasis on post- 1865. It pays particular attention to key historical moments and movements, including Puritanism, revivals and awakenings, missions, abolition and slavery, fundamentalism, anti-Communism and Pentecostalism.

RELI 398O/4 –A (3 credits) H - 459 T.J. 1145-1300
JEWISH EASTERN EUROPE
(Selected Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Norm Ravvin

Eastern Europe has played a shifting role in perceptions of Jewish culture for centuries. Aspects of this were obscured by the disaster of World War Two and the Jewish turn

away from eastern Europe as a viable centre of cultural and religious life. The fall of the Soviet Union opened new possibilities, which are developing apace, and this is arguably one of the most exciting and unpredictable areas of Jewish cultural life today. This course will take into account early developments, including the arrival of large numbers of western European Jews in countries like Poland and the Russian empire; the economic and social role of these newcomers played; the creation of shtetl culture; the rise of Chasidism; the pre-World War Two Yiddish cultural ferment; political parties and the events leading up to the Holocaust. But we will focus in detail on more recent developments: the rise of tourism to eastern Europe; the historical, educational and memorial challenges associated with a reclamation of Jewish east-European identity; and the varieties of musical, religious and literary expressions that reflect the contemporary scene.

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RELI 398Y/2 – AA (3 credits) FPST 398Y / WSDB 398Y T.1800-2015
Indigenous Traditions, Women and Colonialism
(Selected Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Denise Nadeau

~~H 423~~ H565

This course will examine how women from different Indigenous traditions of Turtle Island (North America) have affirmed, adapted or renegotiated their traditions and their gender roles in the context of colonization and missionization. It will apply an Indigenous Knowledge framework to focus on contemporary voices of women as they live out and practice Indigenous principles, values and laws.

RELI 407E/2 – A (3 credits) H-427 T. 1600-1815
SPECIAL SUBJECT: KABBALA: ZOHAR TO MADONNA
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department
Instructor: Andrea Gordon

This course will examine the development of the Jewish mystical tradition of kabbala from medieval times to the present. It has as its perspective the fundamental change in the perception of kabbala from a closed, elite, esoteric body of knowledge, to one that could and should be studied and understood by ordinary men and women. Among the topics it will address are the effect of the print revolution of the fifteenth and sixteenth century on the spread of kabbalistic knowledge, the impact of the seventeenth century messianic movement of Shabbetai Zvi, and the twentieth century phenomenon of Kabbala Centres.

RELI 407F/4– A (3 credits) H-531 T.1600-1815
(cross-listed with RELI 670F)
SPECIAL SUBJECT: ANCIENT JUDAISM
Instructor: Naftali Cohn

This course introduces – at an advanced level – the major topics and scholarly debates in the study of Jewish history and culture in classical and late antiquity, from the Hellenistic period until the Babylonian Talmud (2nd century BCE to 7th century CE). Topics will include biblical interpretation, the Temple and its ritual, Roman politics and the Romanization of Judaea, the relationship between Jews and Early Christians, the archaeology of the synagogue, the nature of the early rabbinic group, women in Jewish society and Jewish texts, and Jewish magic. Through close study of the ancient textual,

epigraphical, and archeological evidence, together with the contemporary interpretation of this evidence, we will explore together the nature of Jewish identity, the relationship between Jewish groups and the larger dominant cultures, and the cultural and historical continuities and discontinuities over the course of this time period.

RELI 407G/4– AA (3 credits) FA 202 T.1830-2045
(cross-listed with RELI 670K)
SPECIAL SUBJECT: 3 JEWISH MESSIAHS
Instructor: Ira Robinson
Prerequisite: RELI 220 or Departmental Permission

This course will examine the Jewish messianic idea from its biblical origins to the present. While it will examine all aspects of messianism in Judaism, it will pay particular attention to the three historical periods in which the messianic idea was embodied in a specific human being in whom many Jews saw the fulfilment of their messianic hopes. These include Jesus of Nazareth (first century C.E.), Shabbetai Zvi (seventeenth century C.E.) and Menachem Mendel Schneersohn (twentieth century C.E.).

~~H 634~~

RELI 409/2– B (3 credits) M.W.1315-1430
METHODOLOGY AND THE STUDY OF RELIGION
Instructor: Marc Lalonde H 627
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This class explores the conceptual and practical foundations that have established the discipline and study of religion as it has developed over the last century or so. At the conceptual level we will be concerned to enquire: how have scholars gone about the study of religion? What sorts of approaches and methods have they relied on? What are the suppositions of these approaches and methods? What kinds of languages and philosophies have been used to explain such scholarly efforts? We will also attend to the various interests that have inevitably guided such research. What are these interests? What are their sources and inspiration? How are they related to wider social, cultural, and historical realities? Thus ours will be a critical examination of religious studies as we endeavour to understand, analyze, and situate the component parts that make up the method and study of religion today. However, we will also be concerned to put these critiques into practice. Toward that end, a portion of this course will be devoted to a guided fieldwork project.

RELI 413/2 - A (3 credits) FA 202 T. 1315-1600
(cross-listed with RELI 620B)
CLASSICAL PERSIAN LITERATURE
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department
Instructor: Richard Foltz

Readings of selected poetry and prose from the rise of classical Persian until the nineteenth century allow students to explore the language, thought, and culture of Iranian civilization. Tutorial for advanced students; knowledge of Persian required.

RELI 498I/4 – A (3 credits) W. 1530-1745
(cross-listed with RELI 698I)
FEMINIST JEWISH PHILOSOPHY
Instructor: Michael Oppenheim

This course will explore contemporary writings by feminist Jewish philosophers who seek to analyze, critique, and reconstruct Jewish life and Jewish texts through philosophy. It will begin by examining the converging currents of modern Jewish philosophy and feminist philosophy, which provide a context for their work. Among the philosophers to be examined are: Rachel Adler, Judith Plaskow, Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, and Susan Shapiro. We will investigate and engage these theorists in their efforts toward reading and repairing sacred texts, retrieving the voice of women in Jewish history, expanding the power of women within contemporary Jewish communities, and engendering Jewish women's religious lives. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating*

RELI 498K/2 - A (3 credits) J. 1600-1815
(cross-listed with RELI 698M/2 AA)
WRITING YOURSELF INTO HISTORY: AUTOBIOGRAPHY & JEWISH IDENTITY
Instructor: Norman Ravvin
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This course will approach autobiography from a creative and scholarly standpoint. We will explore the genre, from the particular position of Jewish writing and culture. But students will have the opportunity, as part of their written work, to write their own autobiographical diary or memoir. This will allow us to approach things historically, generically as well as personally. The course meetings will include conventional lectures as well as some in-class discussion of students' own writing. Students of Jewish history, literature, creative writing and cultural studies will find their backgrounds intersect with the course's approach. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper-level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498O/2 – AA (3 credits) W.1830-2045
(cross-listed with RELI 630M)
GRECO-ROMAN RELIGIONS
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This seminar surveys how ancient Romans interacted with their gods and other sacred beings. We will discover that in the Roman Empire religion was not a matter of belief, but of proper ritual whose goal was to establish and maintain beneficial relationships with the divine in its various forms. Focusing on the Roman imperial period, we will consider a host of data from across the Empire, from architecture to myth and philosophical dialogues. To complement existing courses, the course does not explicitly address Judaism and Christianity (though they, too, participated in this Roman milieu), in order to concentrate on alternative religious expressions and perspectives that populated the ancient Mediterranean World, such as philosophical practices, domestic rites and banquets, imperial and mystery cultic rituals, and magical

and occult devotions. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498R/4– A (3 credits) W. 1600-1815
(cross-listed with RELI 630F)
CHRISTIANITY AND SAME-SEX RELATIONS
Instructor: Donald Boisvert
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This seminar will examine the wide diversity of Christian teachings on same-sex relations, both historically and theologically. As well, it will explore and reflect upon the active historical presence of queer people in the Christian tradition, and the important ways in which they are further reclaiming and altering their faith in the contemporary world. *This course is a seminar format one, in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498S/2– A (3 credits) W. 1600-1815
(cross-listed with RELI 614H)
THE MAHABHARATA
Instructor: T.S. Rukmani
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This course brings you in touch with the *Mahabharata,* one of the two great epics (*itihasa*) of Hinduism, which, declares loudly "whatever is not here is nowhere else". True to this declaration the *Mahabharata* contains in its 100,000 verses a fund of material pertaining to practically all spheres of Indian thought and culture. It is thus an important source of cultural history of the Indian people. An attempt will be made through secondary sources and some original readings (through translation) to examine not only religious and philosophical ideas but also social and cultural issues present in this rich text. An understanding of the issues in the *Mahabharata* will enable one to understand the richness of Hinduism as well as its many sided character. This is the epic that was made famous in the west by Peter Brook's theatre rendering. *This course is a seminar format one, in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498V/4– AA (3 credits) J. 1800-2015
(cross-listed with RELI 608A)
MANICHAEISM
Instructor:
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

Though no longer practiced today, Manichaeism holds great importance in the history of religions due to its influence on the development of Christianity and Islam, as well as its interactions with other religions including Judaism, Buddhism, and Taoism. Long known only through the polemics of its adversaries, Manichaeism is now being radically re-assessed by scholars based on recently discovered primary texts from Egypt and China. This course will focus on readings of Manichaean sources and the newly-emerging understanding of the religion that they make possible. *This course is a seminar format one, in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498W/4– A (3 credits) J. 1600-1815
(cross-listed with RELI 630L/ENGL 498D)
SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY, AND THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION
Instructor: Lorenzo DiTommaso
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This seminar examines religious themes (and their secularisation) in some key works of science fiction and fantastic literature. After spending a few weeks on theory, we give ourselves over to a discussion of the literature at a rate of one novel a week. A final reading list will be ready in September and will likely include: James Blish, *A Case of Conscience*; Philip K. Dick, *VALIS*; Robert A. Heinlein, *Stranger in a Strange Land*, Frank Herbert, *Dune*; William Gibson, *Neuromancer*; Stanislaw Lem, *Solaris;* Walter M. Miller, Jr., *A Canticle for Leibowitz*; Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*; Dan Simmons, *Hyperion/The Fall of Hyperion*; and J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy. This seminar is open to graduates and advanced undergraduates. Students are encouraged to complete a significant portion of the reading before the start of the seminar. *This course is a seminar format one, in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498X/4– AA (3 credits) T. 1830-2045
(cross-listed with RELI 614V/4 AA)
KASHMIR SHAIVISM
Instructor: Shaman Hatley
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This course examines Tantric or Esoteric Shaivism in medieval Kashmir, one of the most influential branches of Hindu Tantra. The focus will be the remarkable monistic philosophical tradition exemplified by the works of Abhinavagupta, a polymath active in the early eleventh century, with which "Kashmir Shaivism" is often held synonymous. However, as we shall see, monistic Shaivism was neither the only Shaiva tradition in Kashmir, nor was it exclusively Kashmirian. The course begins with investigation of the early history and scripture of Tantric Shaivism, the history and religious landscape of medieval Kashmir, and the major Shaiva cults of the region (e.g. that of Svacchandabhairava, the Trika, and the Krama). Subsequently, we shall study the dualist exegesis of the Kashmirian Shaiva Siddhanta and the rise of monistic or nondual Shaivism in the ninth and tenth centuries. Two prominent forms taken by the latter are the Doctrine of Recognition (*Pratyabhijña*), which emphasizes the liberating realization of the soul's innate identity with God; and the Doctrine of Vibration (*Spanda*), which emphasizes mystical experience of the dynamic, creative consciousness that is the ground of all being. In studying monistic Shaivism, we will give particular attention to debates with competing Hindu and Buddhist schools. The course will emphasize close reading of primary sources in translation. *This course is a seminar format one, in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

Department of Religion - Timetable Fall 2011

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10:15-11:30	210 326	331 298I	210 326	331 298I
11:45-13:00	336 233 220	215 224	336 233 220	215 224
13:15-14:30	298H 409	209 343 413/620B (until 4pm)	298H 409	209 343 380 (until 4pm)
14:45-16:00	218 382	226 310 376	218 382	226 310 376
16:15-17:30	392/697A (4-6:15pm)	407E (4-6:15pm)	498S/614H (4-6:15pm) 641M (4-6:15pm) 891 (3:30-5:45)	498K/698M (4-6:15pm)
18:00-20:15	611 (6-8:15pm)	225 398Y 610 (6:00-8:15pm)	300 498O/630M (6:30-8:45pm)	394

Department of Religion - Timetable Winter 2012

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10:15-11:30	325B 327	361 324	325B 327	361 324
11:45-13:00	381 348	214 398O	381 348	214 398O
13:15-14:30	209 398B	312 (until 4pm) 364	209 398B	223 (until 4pm) 364
14:45-16:00	347 389	329 378	347 389	329 378
16:15-17:30	630I (4-6:15pm)	407F/670F (4-6:15pm)	498I/698I (3:30-5:45) 498R/630F (4-6:15pm) 891 (15:30-17:45)	498W/630L (4-6:15pm)
18:00-20:15	609 (6:30-8:45pm)	386 407G/670K (6:30-8:45pm) 498X614V (6:30-8:45pm)	302 632E (4-6:15pm)	319 371 498V/608A (6-8:15pm)